

**Concise Explanatory Statement**  
*for amendments to*  
**Chapter 16-401 WAC**  
**Nursery Inspection Fees**

On June 27, 2006, the Washington State Department of Agriculture held a hearing in Olympia to accept testimony on its proposal to amend chapter 16-401 WAC (Nursery Inspection Fees). The proposal amends chapter 16-401 WAC by:

1. increasing the nursery inspection fees by the OFM fiscal growth factor for fiscal year 2007 (3.38%); and
2. increasing the permit fee for businesses exempted from a nursery dealer's license by the OFM fiscal growth factor for fiscal year 2007 (3.38%).

**Reasons for Adopting the Rule:**

Current nursery inspection fees were not established to cover the increased costs of providing nursery inspection services, therefore, the proposed increases are necessary to ensure that the program will remain financially solvent. RCW 15.13.260(4) and RCW 15.14.015(11) authorize the director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture to establish fees to cover the cost of providing inspection services. The nursery advisory committee, which is appointed by the director of the Department of Agriculture to represent the interests of the nursery industry, supports the proposal.

**Summary of Comments:**

The public comment period ran from May 24, 2006, until close of business on June 27, 2006. During that time one written comment and no oral comments were received. The following summarizes the written testimony regarding the proposed amendments:

**Jeanne McNeil** - representing the Washington State Nursery & Landscape Association, stated she "...supports WSDA's proposal for nominal fee increases for requested inspections..."

**Difference Between Proposed Text and Published Text:**

There are no differences between the text of the proposed rule as published in the register and the text of the rule as adopted. The rule is adopted as proposed.